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Practitioner's Docket No.: 791_187

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: **Kazumasa YASHIRO, Kenji KAWAMURA and Kenshin KITO**

Ser. No.: 10/083,323

Group Art Unit: 1746

Filed: February 26, 2002

Examiner: Crepeau, Jonathan

Confirmation No.: 4109

For: **LITHIUM SECONDARY CELL**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE
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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to
Examiner Jonathan Crepeau at the Patent and Trademark
Office on March 23, 2005 at (703) 872-9306.

Tara L. Preston
Tara L. Preston

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 28, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all pending rejections based on the following arguments and the attached Rule 132 Declaration of Mr. Kenshin Kitoh.

Claims 1-41 are pending herein, and were rejected under §102/§103 over Oweis et al. and Watanabe et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In the Amendment filed October 13, 2004, independent claim 1 was amended to clarify that, prior to joining the metallic foils to the collectors, the claimed "predetermined parts" of the collectors are thicker than the remaining parts of the collectors. As explained in the prior Amendment, use of collectors having the claimed configuration prior to joining (by laser welding, for example) results in better bonding between the metallic foils and the collector.

In the current Office Action, Examiner Crepeau acknowledged this argument, but did not give it any weight, stating that there was no evidentiary support that the increased thickness of the predetermined part of the collector "provides a more 'secure' or 'reliable' joint" (12/28/04 Office Action, page 5, lines 9-11).

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